

#### Dog Gone It - Let's Get Going!



Rebecca Wilson's Cassie



# 2013 Virginia Outdoors Plan

Virginia's 10th Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)





## Outdoor Recreation & Conservation

Provide guidance to all levels of government and the private sector in meeting the state's conservation, outdoor recreation and open space needs.

Produced in accordance with §10.1-200 of the *Code of Virginia*.





#### **Land Conservation**

Provide guidance for land protection through actions of the *Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (VLCF)*.

As directed by §10.1-1021 of the Virginia Code.





#### **Land & Water Conservation Fund**

Requirement of the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program.

Provides guidance for grant fund allocation to state and local projects.





## Planning for Outdoor Recreation Access Using New Tools





#### Input via Public Meetings

42 public meetings480 citizen participants

Identified outdoor recreation uses and trends within each region of the Commonwealth





## Input via e-mails and written comments



 121 citizen comments (e-mail & letters)

 Over 7 additional meetings held with special interest groups



#### Virginia Outdoors Plan – Online

DCR website focus on Recreation Resource Planning

(Quarterly average 1000 website views)



http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational\_planning/index.shtm



#### Virginia Outdoors Plan – Online



Provides access to Land and Water Conservation Fund statewide data for grant applicants and project review.



#### Virginia Outdoors Plan – Online

Resource for recreation planning into local comprehensive plans.





Organization – Promotion – Design - Economic

http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/CommunityDevelopmentRevitalization/PDFs/VMS\_Program\_Guide.pdf



## How can Virginia Main Street Use the Virginia Outdoors Plan?



- Outdoor recreation activities are most popular in your region
- Trends in recreation
- Integrate recreation into core competencies and planning



#### Organization

Partner with local parks and recreation departments





#### **Promotion**

Outdoor recreation is an asset!
-Special event focus
-Materials & website promotion
-Reference needs identified in Virginia Outdoors Plan





#### Design

- -Prioritize physical improvements to include access to outdoor recreation
  - -Top statewide recreation needs include walking, water access, natural area access & historic resources.
- -Virginia's scenic character contributes to recreational experiences









#### **Economic**

-Include recreational assets in economic evaluations of Main Street Program

-Use Virginia Outdoor Survey to justify & highlight outdoor recreation opportunities

-Include outdoor recreation support in economic development incentives



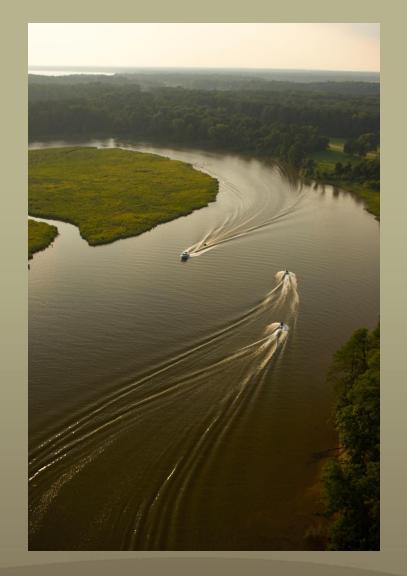






# Survey results posted on DCR website





**Sample Survey** 



## What did the Public & the Virginia Outdoor Survey Say About Outdoor Recreation & Land Conservation?

- -Outdoor recreation & land conservation are important.
- -Information about recreation planning & land conservation reported by region.
- -Outdoor recreation influences tourism & the economy of Virginia.
- -Healthy lifestyles include outdoor recreation.





#### Opinions about outdoor recreation

## How important is it to have access to outdoor recreation opportunities?

Poting	% of households	
Rating	2006	2011
Very important	50.4	55.6
Important	41.5	36.1
Not important	8.1	8.2



#### **Outdoor recreation participation**

Rating	% of households 2011
Mostly on weekends	55.3
Mostly during the week	7.4
About equally on weekends and during the week	37.2



## Outdoor recreation information and opportunities

How do you usually find out about outdoor recreation information and opportunities?	% of households 2011	
Word of mouth	72.3	
Internet	58.8	
Magazine, newspaper	46.0	
Travel guides, pamphlets & brochures	33.0	
Advertisements	32.6	
Other	8.3	



#### **Technology**

Which technologies do you use in connection with outdoor recreation?	% of households
	2011
Internet	67
Smart phone	27
Social media	26
GPS	25
Digital mapping	23
Remote cameras	9
Other	6



### Public Perception of What Outdoor Recreation Facilities are Most Needed

Activity	% of hoւ 2006	ıseholds 2011
Hiking and walking trails	49	67
State waters: fishing, swimming, beach	50	59
Natural areas	42	55
Bicycling trails	40	54
Historic areas	33	51
Canoeing, kayaking		46
Wildlife watching and nature study		45
Playing fields for outdoor sports	36	40
Public pools		38
Tennis and basketball courts	25	32



#### Most popular activities

Activity	% of hoւ 2006	ıseholds 2011
Walking for pleasure	72	82
Visiting historic areas	56	64
Visiting parks (local, state, natl.)		51
Driving for Pleasure	55	
Visiting natural areas, preserves, refuges	44	50
Swimming/pool	44 (all)	43
Sunbathing/relaxing on a beach	36	41
Swimming/beach	44 (all)	38
Jogging/running	24	34
Using a playground	25	30
Picnicking away from home	26	28



#### Most popular activities

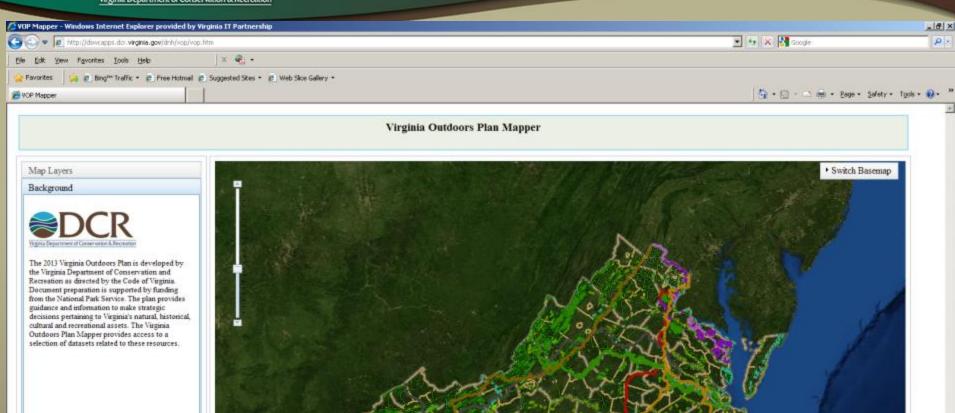
Activity	% of hoւ 2006	ıseholds 2011
Visiting gardens/arboretums	22	26
Hiking/backpacking	16	25
Fresh water fishing	20	24
Camping	18	24
Golf	15	16
Canoeing/kayaking/rowing	9	16
Salt water fishing	15	14
Off-road/multi-use bicycling	5	13
Fitness Trail (not jogging)	11	13
Basketball	13	13
Hunting	8	13



## Let's Tour Virginia's Interactive Website





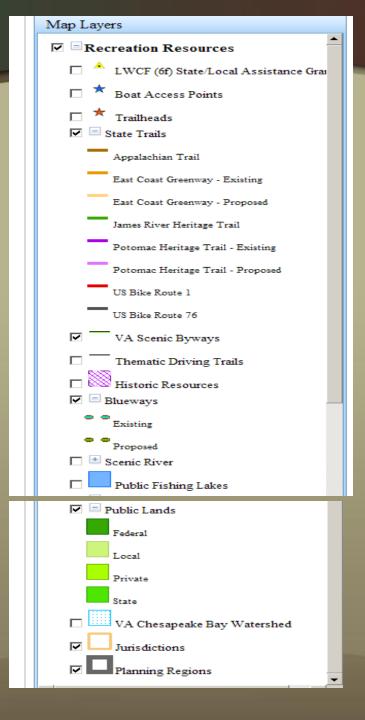




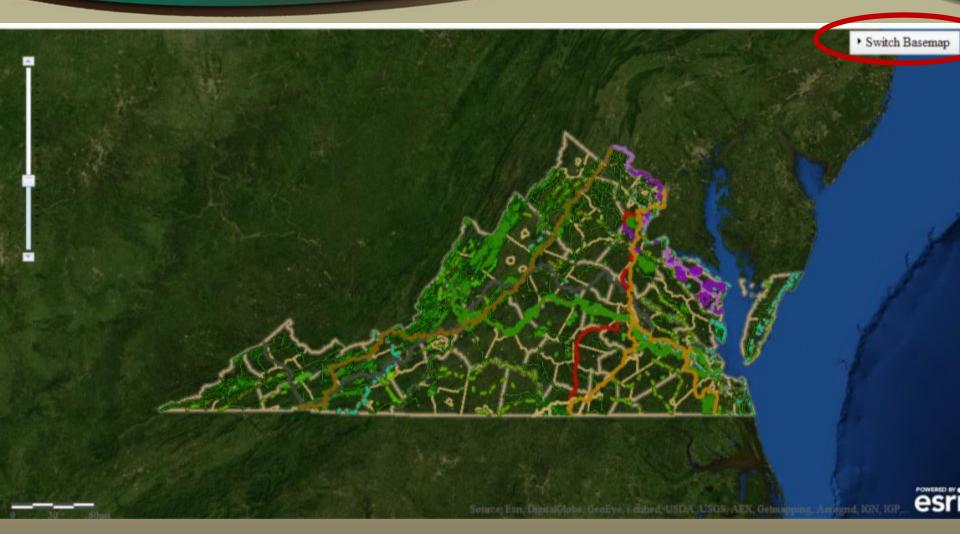
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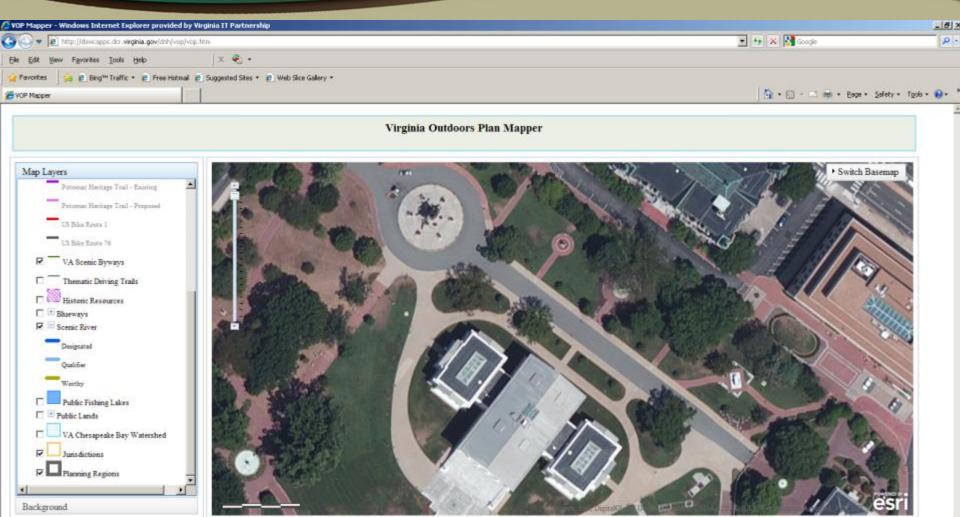
Virginia Department of Conservation and reation as directed by the Code of Virginia. Sument preparation is supported by funding the National Park Service. The plan provides dance and information to make strategic isions pertaining to Virginia's natural, historical, ural and recreational assets. The Virginia doors Plan Mapper provides access to a ction of datasets related to these resources.









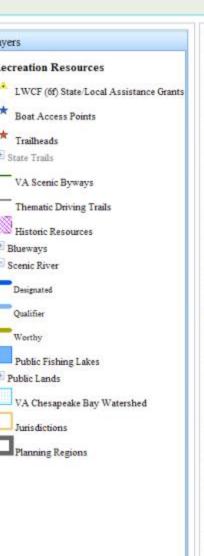


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Local intranet



#### Virginia Outdoors Plan Mapper

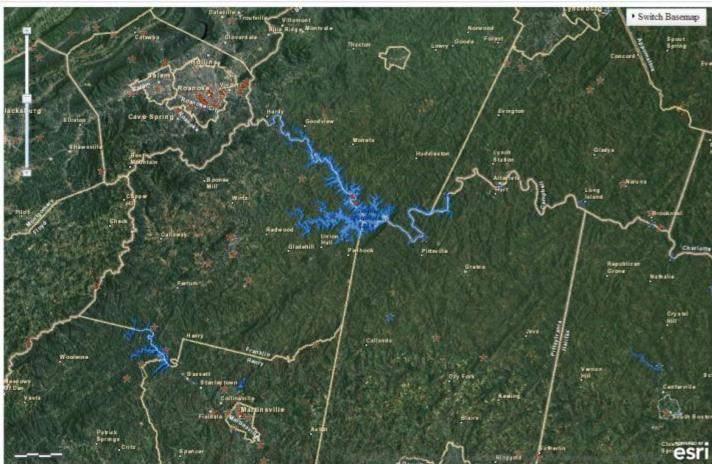






#### Virginia Outdoors Plan Mapper

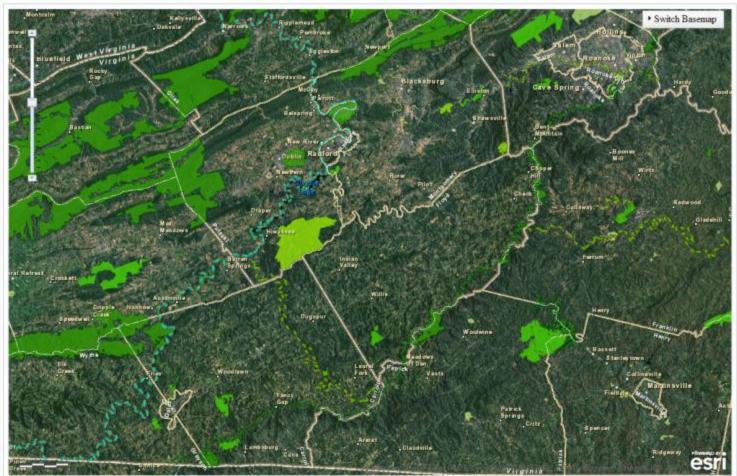


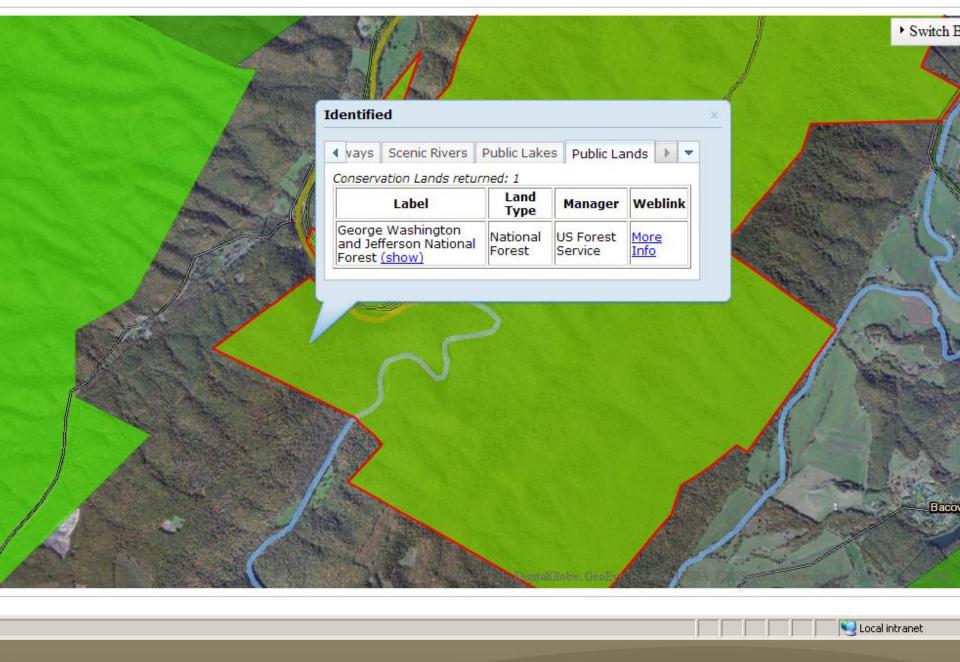


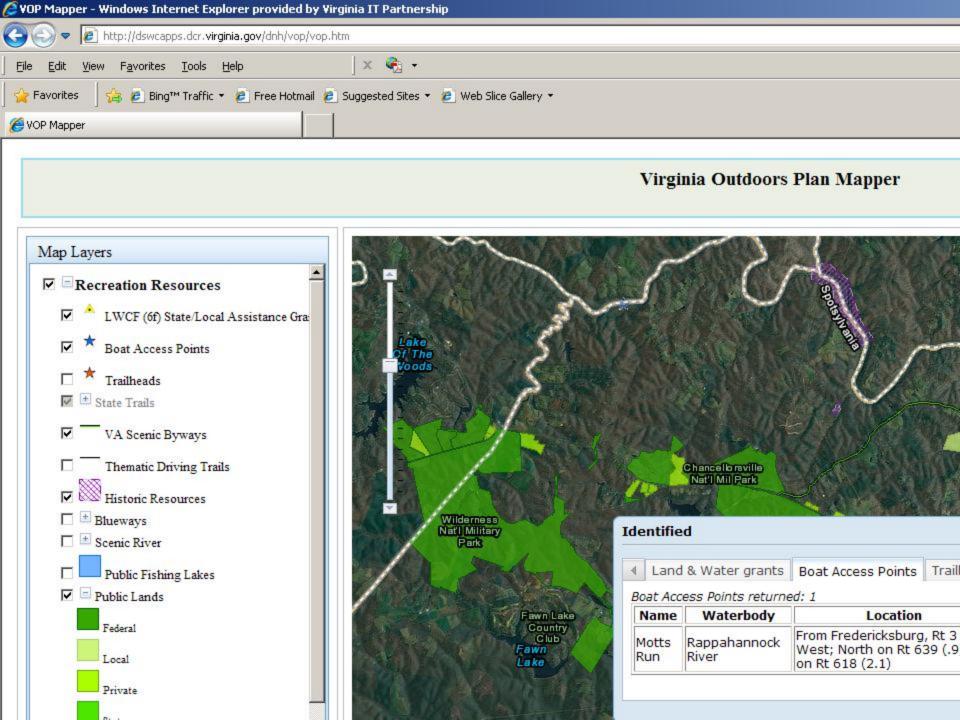


#### Virginia Outdoors Plan Mapper











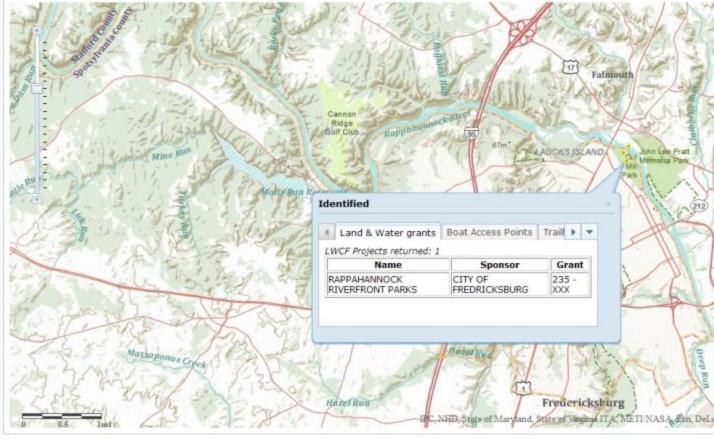
✓ YOP Mapper - Windows Internet Explorer provided by Virginia IT Partnership

(C) v (E) http://dswcapps.dcr.virginia.gov/dnh/vop/vop.htm



#### Virginia Outdoors Plan Mapper





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#### **Recreational Trails Program**





#### Recreational Trails Program

- DCR in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- Funds motorized and non-motorized recreational trails from motor fuel excise tax
  - > 30% funds motorized trails (ATV, OHV, etc.)
  - > 40% funds multi-use trails
  - > 30% on non-motorized trails



#### **Recreational Trails Program**

- Over \$15 million received since 1993
- Over 250 projects
- Approximately 40% of funding for new trail construction
- Approximately 40% of funding for trail rehabilitation
- Approximately 20% of funding for trail sides & trailheads





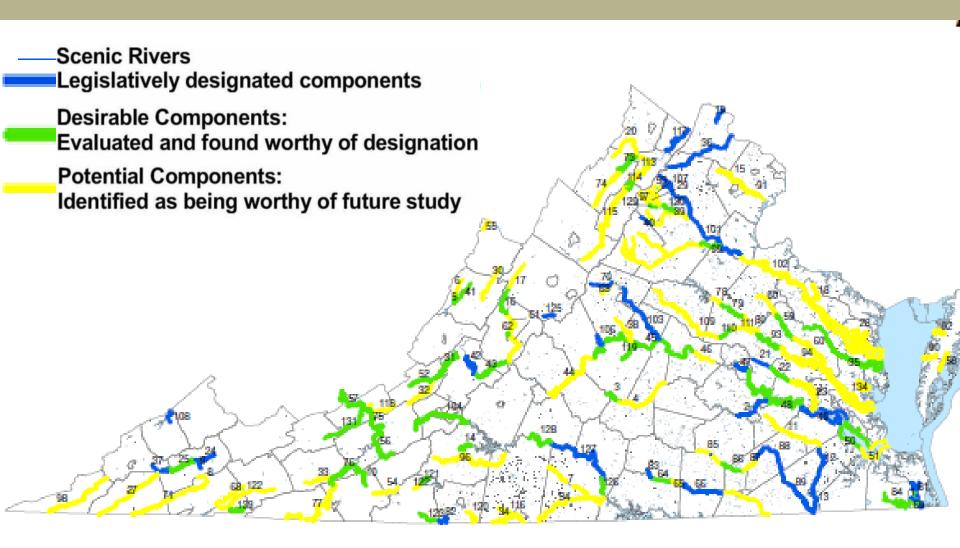
#### Scenic Resource Programs



- Virginia Code references scenic over 50 times
- Since 1966 the VOP has included scenic resource information



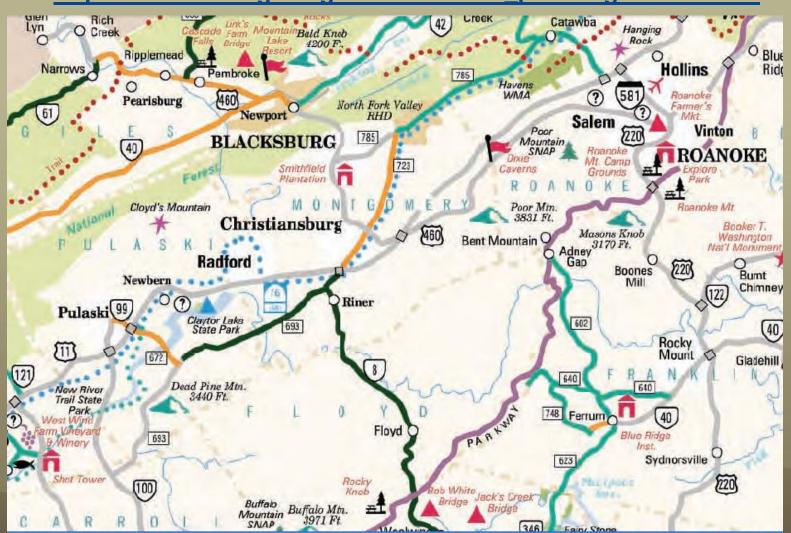
#### **Scenic Rivers**





#### Virginia Byways

http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational\_planning/sr-ivb.shtml







# 1-Of the information presented, what will be most helpful to your Main Street Community?

#### 2-What information is missing?

Contact: Janit Llewellyn Allen: Janit.Llewellyn@dcr.virginia.gov



#### Thanks for sticking with me!



Johnny Townsend's Chewie







